## Approved For Release 2004/04/13: CIA-RDP79B01709A000200050030-3 TOP SECRET File Color Copy 6 of 12 20 November 1970 OBGI MEMORANDUM FOR: THROUGH : Director of Special Projects : Use of Color Photography for Geographic Intelligence SUBJECT , OBGI Requirements for Satellite System REFERENCE Photography, 7 July 1970 1. Our recent discussions and those of the CIA Color Working Group have emphasized the need to take a closer look at the use of color photography for geographic intelligence purposes. The work of the last year or so of the Color Task Force and the CIA Color Working Group has tended to concentrate almost exclusively on It occurs to me, however, that the potential application of color photography to both geographic and economic intelligence problems should not be ignored. This would seem particularly true in light of the comment made in the referenced memo stating that, "We feel that color film would be more desirable than black and white analysts are also very interested in color infra-red and feel that signi-ficant improvements in the SO-180 film would provide us with a very worthwhile system having numerous applications." 4. The objections to using color film in the KH-4b (as your memo stated) have been singularly related to the question of resolution. The scale of the KH-4b, in concert with the very poorly color-corrected lens, makes the resolution of color with this camera of marginal utility, except for truly area-oriented questions (such as geology, for example). Such is

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SUBJECT: Use of Color Photography for Geographic Intelligence

5. The real questions are: How do we reasonably assess what kind of geographic intelligence problems are amenable to color photography? And how useful is the color photography for these problems vis-a-vis black and white? One way to get at these questions, of course, is to run controlled experiments. Certain experiments could be run rather easily if it seemed profitable to do so. For example, the 112B system on the U-2 can be employed domestically to acquire test photography if analogous problems can be defined. Such a test program has been employed for a number of years and is referred to as the Red Dot Program. I would also like your thoughts on the potential of tests over non-domestic areas that are amenable to U-2 coverage (such as Cuba, for example).

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6. If OBGI is interested in the potential applications of color photography to their specific use(s) of satellite acquisitions, it is possible that some analysis in this regard could be undertaken. Specifically, I request your comments on experiments that could be run to obtain answers to the questions posed in paragraph 5 above.

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7. and myself would b entire color program with your management Your comments will be appreciated.	e most happy to discuss the if this is considered desirable
Tour commences	
	NRO Color Task Force

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